

Jabirr Jabirr language

The **Jabirr Jabirr language**, also known as **Djabirr-Djabirr**, is a Western Nyulnyulan language formerly spoken by the Jabirr Jabirr people on the coast south of Beagle Bay in Western Australia. Earlier sources spelled the name **DjaberrDjaberr** or **Dyaberdyaber**; the contemporary accepted spelling is Jabirr-Jabirr, which reflects the spelling conventions of languages of the Kimberley region.^[3] It is also sometimes spelt **Jabba Jabba**.^[4]

The language is closely related to Nyulnyul and probably close enough to be mutually intelligible.^[5] The source materials from Nekes and Worms' (1953) "Australian Languages" list numerous similarities.

Jabirr Jabirr is as of 2020 part of a language revival project. Jabirr Jabirr is one of 20 languages prioritised as part of the Priority Languages Support Project, being undertaken by First Languages Australia and funded by the Department of Communications and the Arts. The project aims to "identify and document critically-endangered languages — those languages for which little or no documentation exists, where no recordings have previously been made, but where there are living speakers".^[6]

Dyaberdyaber	
Dyaberdyaber	
Region	Australia
Ethnicity	Djaberadjabera
Extinct	1980s? ^[1]
Language family	Nyulnyulan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dyaberdyaber
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	dyb
Glottolog	dyab1238 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/dyab1238) ^[2]
AIATSIS ^[1]	K8 (https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/language/K8)

References

1. K8 (<https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/language/K8>) Dyaberdyaber at the Australian Indigenous Languages Database, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Dyaberdyaber" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/dyab1238>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Bower, C. 2012 "A Grammar of Bardi". Berlin: Mouton
4. McKenzie, Vincent (13 August 2019). "Education is the key to keeping Bardi language and culture strong" (<https://www.abc.net.au/life/education-is-the-key-to-keeping-bardi-language-culture-strong/11271482>). Life. Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Retrieved 11 November 2019.
5. McGregor, W and B Stokes. Classifying the Nyulnyulan languages. in N. Evans (ed) "The Non-Pama-Nyungan Languages of Northern Australia" Canberra: Pacific Linguistics, 2003
6. "Priority Languages Support Project" (<https://www.firstlanguages.org.au/projects/plsp>). *First Languages Australia*. Retrieved 13 January 2020.

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